

REMARKS

As discussed below, this paper both amends the claims and responds to the restriction requirement.

I. Claim Amendments

Claims 1 and 2 are currently being amended. Support for these amendments can be found throughout the specification as-filed, including the original claims. Amendments to claims 148 and 149 correct minor typographical errors.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier. No new matter is being added.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-159 are now pending.

II. Restriction Requirement

The Office Action requires restriction between Groups I-XIII, defined on pages 2-3 of the March 20th Office Action. According to the Office Action, these groups define independent and distinct inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement as unduly excessive but file the present response merely for sake of promptly prosecuting the case. Accordingly, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, Claims 1-29 and 112-121, for examination.

Because Applicants elected Group I, the Office Action also requires an election of species from each of groups (a)-(e), as set forth on page 8 of the Office Action. Applicants understand that upon allowance of a generic claim, the scope of examination will be expanded to the non-elected species. Accordingly, Applicants elect (a) “virus” as a biological material, (b) “one” as

the number of biological materials, if present, and “protein” as the species of the additional biological material, (c) “plastic” as the substrate, (d) “inorganic” as the species of molecule¹, and (e) “sugar” as the type of stabilizer.

Of the elected claims (Group I, Claims 1-29 and 112-121), at least claims 1-9, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19-29, 112-116, 119, and 120 are readable on the elected species.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

¹ Applicants believe that “inorganic” is a sufficient election. However, should election of a specific species of “inorganic” molecule be required, Applicants elect “semiconductor.”

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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